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# RIVER CURRENTS

VOL. XXX No. 5

Features, Comment & News for the Second Coast Guard District

**NEW BILLETS FOR WOMEN**

**WOMEN**

**IN THE COAST GUARD**

**VIEWS OF WOMEN**

**IN THE SECOND DISTRICT**



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# NEW BILLETS FOR WOMEN ANNOUNCED

Secretary of Transportation Brock Adams told the graduating class at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut that he has approved action assigning women to duty at sea for the first time in the 186-year history of the Coast Guard.

"It is my privilege to announce that the Coast Guard will soon have women serving at sea," Secretary Adams told the all-male class of 1977. "I am also happy to announce that you women cadets of the class of 1980 can also expect to be assigned to sea duty on graduation." The Academy began admitting women last year.

Following the Secretary's announcement, the Commandant, Admiral Owen W. Siler, added more details. It is expected that two women officers and up to ten enlisted women will be assigned to permanent duty aboard each of two 378-foot cutters.

Admiral Siler said that the Coast Guard has already succeeded in integrating women into a wide variety of Coast Guard missions and programs.

"If women are denied an opportunity to serve at sea," he commented, "we are not using the great available resources of the many well qualified women who could be assigned."

The Commandant said that the decision is in keeping with Secretary Adams' strong commitment to assure equal opportunities for women within the Transportation Department. "There are Coast Guard women who desire to serve aboard ship to broaden their potential for advancement," he added.

Action by Congress will not be required as current statutes do not bar the assignment of women to full time sea duty.

A call for volunteers to fill the new assignments has already been issued. Women selected will serve aboard the CGC Gallatin homeported at Governors Island and the CGC Morgenthau which will be based in San Francisco. Selected personnel will report to these units this Fall.

As experience is gained with the program,

Headquarters officials expect it to be extended to other cutters which offer appropriate compartments for the required privacy.

Women aboard these cutters will be replaced by male personnel during military readiness operations with the U.S. Navy in order to demonstrate the Coast Guard's capability to meet the legal restriction prohibiting the assignment of women to combatant ships in times of national emergency when the Coast Guard becomes part of the Navy.

Headquarters has pointed out that under current U.S. law, women may not be assigned to duty in U.S. Navy aircraft engaged in combat missions, nor may they be assigned to duty on vessels of the U.S. Navy other than hospital ships and transports.

# Women in the Coast Guard

By PA1 T. Michael O'Brien  
Reprinted with permission of Ninth District's  
SHIPMATES MAGAZINE

Ever since 1647 when Margaret Brent demanded a "place and voyce" in the Maryland Assembly, the role of women in American society has undergone a slow but steady evolution as more and more women sought to obtain their natural rights.

While never in the vanguard of the feminist movement, and although it was not until December 7, 1973 that women were enlisted or commissioned into the regular Coast Guard, women have played a vital and integral role in this Service throughout its history.

Today's Coast Guard is an amalgamation of several former government agencies including the Lighthouse Service, Life Saving Service and Revenue Cutter Service. The official rolls of the Revenue Cutter Service do not list any women as having been members of a ship's company, however, the first cutter might never have been launched had it not been for the heroism of a woman named Maria Lee. More popularly known as "Black Maria", she was a teamstress, well renowned for her brawn and pugilistic skill and in 1791 she fought off six

hijackers attempting to steal a cargo of small cannons enroute to the SCAMMEL. Her actions saved the cargo and enabled Captain Hopely Yeaton to launch that first cutter.

Women also played a major role in the Lighthouse Service, many serving in official capacities as Keepers and Assistant Keepers of Lights. The employment of women as Lighthouse Keepers was an outgrowth of the Service's humanitarian aspect. In most instances women keepers were widows of keepers or daughters, spinster sisters, cousins, or aunts, who, in running the household of a keeper, had learned how to maintain and operate the various details of a light. The naming of widows, and other female dependents of keepers who had died, as replacements was mutually beneficial to both the women and the Service. Since there were no pension provisions for keepers or compensation awards for surviving dependents, it gave the women a means of earning a living while providing the Service with qualified attendants who required no further training.



Cadet with Academy Color Guard.

The first women keepers began to appear on the rolls during the 1830's, mostly in New England, and by 1851 there were thirty women keepers stationed throughout the country. Several of these women achieved great prominence within the Service but perhaps the most notable of these was Ida Lewis Wilson, who, for 32 years, held the position of Keeper at Lime Rock Lighthouse in Rhode Island. Her record of personal courage and dedication was legendary. Officially, she is credited with rescuing at least thirteen persons from drowning but local tradition places the figure much higher. Ida Lewis, as she was known — preferring to use her maiden name long before it became fashionable — received numerous honors for her heroism, including the Gold Lifesaving Medal, our nation's highest award for valor in rescuing those in peril upon the seas.

Seven women have been awarded the Gold Lifesaving Medal since its creation in 1876 and 22 have received the Silver Lifesaving Medal.

Kate Walker was another Lighthouse Service heroine. She was appointed Assistant Keeper of the Robbins Reef Lighthouse near New York City in 1884 when her husband was assigned there as Keeper. After he died, no one

would take the job because of its isolated location, so Kate was appointed Keeper. Not only did she tend the light, she also raised two children and in her "spare time" was credited with rescuing at least fifty people from drowning.

"It was said she knew nothing of New York City, though always in sight of it; that she cared scrupulously for her children and rowed them back and forth to school in Staten Island; and that the light never failed in her care."

The dedication these women brought to the Service is illustrated by the records of Julia F. Williams and Maggie R. Norwell. In 1865 Mrs. Williams succeeded her husband as Keeper of the one-man Santa Barbara Lighthouse. Each night for the next forty years she climbed the tower stairs; lighting the lamp at dusk, trimming the wick at midnight and extinguishing the light at dawn. She retired only after breaking her hip at the youthful age of 81. Maggie Norwell also served for forty years, retiring in 1932.

President Calvin Coolidge appointed the last of the women keepers, Mrs. Fannie Salter, in 1925. Mrs. Salter retired from her post at Turkey Point in upper Chesapeake Bay in 1948 because lighthouse keeper was "too hard on the feet."

The files of the Lighthouse Service are replete with tales of heroic deeds performed by women keepers. There's the woman keeper of Angel Island in San Francisco Bay who stood on the platform of the fog bell house and struck the gong by hand for 24 hours and 35 minutes after the machinery had become disabled and on another occasion struck the bell with a nail hammer all night. And there's Maebelle Mason, recipient of the Silver Lifesaving Medal for her rescue of a man whose boat capsized a mile off the Mamajuda Lighthouse in the Detroit River. Maebelle rowed the entire distance, pulled the man from the water and returned to shore with his boat in tow. She was only fourteen at the time.



Women Cadets aboard USCGC Eagle.



After Mrs. Salter's retirement in 1948, the "Coast Guard Bulletin" reported "the duties and lives of these women keepers were often arduous in the extreme . . . These women often performed acts of heroism . . . ; and on numerous occasions made personal sacrifices that the signals under their charge might not fail the mariners."

Another precursor of the Coast Guard was the Life Saving Service and, while it did not regularly employ women as surfmen, female members of a keeper's family were often called upon to assist in rescues. In fact, the first woman ever to be awarded the Silver Lifesaving Medal was Edith Morgan, the young daughter of Captain Sanford Morgan, Keeper of the U.S. Life Saving Station at Grand Point au Sable in Hamlin, Michigan. Edith received her medal for heroic action on two occasions where, had she not cast aside the traditionalist role of the "weaker sex", twenty persons might have perished. During these two rescues, Edith manned the oars of a surfboat, cleared land, helped launch the boat and hauled survivors ashore; tugging at a frozen rope for six hours, in snow over a foot and a half deep.

Women officially became part of the Coast Guard on November 23, 1942 when Public Law 773 amended the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Reserve Act of 1941 to create a women's reserve. Dorothy C. Stratton, Dean of Women on leave from Purdue University and a Lieutenant in the Women's Naval Reserve was selected to serve as Director of the Coast Guard Women's Reserve. It was she who coined the acronym SPAR from the first letter of the Coast Guard's Latin motto and the English translation — Semper Paratus, Always Ready. Since the term also had excellent nautical connotations, it gained almost instant acceptance.

The first 15 officers and 153 enlisted personnel to become SPARS were actually women transferred from the Navy. To these were added 378 enlisted and 106 officers recruited expressly for the Coast Guard, so that within two months after passage of the act establishing it, the SPARS included 652 women. By war's end, this figure had climbed to over 11,000.

Women officer candidates received indoctrination training at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, making them the only women officers, until recently, to be trained on the grounds of a regular service academy.

Although intended primarily to fill the administrative and clerical billets of the Coast Guard, by January 1945 there were 36 SPAR



First two women in Coast Guard Band, MU1 Constance Coghlan (L), and MU1 Coleen Sweet-sir (R).

Boatswain's Mates; 44 Coxswains, 2 Gunner's Mates; 2 Carpenters; and 4 Machinist's Mates. The Coast Guard also made it possible for women officers to be assigned to positions of real responsibility and authority (provided they were assistants to a male officer who was in command). Thus, while still required to subordinate to a male commanding officer, this was a giant step forward from the original regulation which gave them authority over SPARS only. Women Reserves served as Executive Officers, Division heads, Officers of the Day, Watch Officers and as members of courts-martial.

From the very beginning, the Coast Guard sought high quality personnel to fill the ranks of its Women's Reserves. Of the first 1,310 women enlisted, over 66% had completed high school and over 5% were college graduates with nearly 25% having attended at least one year of college. Only 5% failed to meet the minimum of two years of high school, SPAR officers also had impressive backgrounds. A survey of 356 officers and officer candidates made in July 1943 revealed that 94% were college graduates; 20% held Master's Degrees and 33% had done some graduate work. More than 50% were educators and 20% had backgrounds in private business. This high level of education and experience (the average officer had worked seven years prior to beginning her Coast Guard service) was necessary because the SPARS intended to utilize the women's civilian learned skills to reduce the need for further training. The six-week officer indoctrination course served only to acquaint the new officers with military life and Coast Guard missions and traditions. Only those being assigned to communications or pay and



ENS. Janna Lambine graduated Flight Training, January 28, 1977.

supply billets received advanced training.

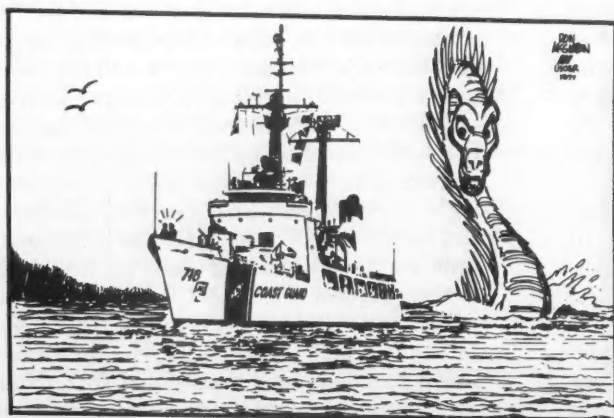
Initially the Women's Reserve was not to be permanent. The Act establishing it provided only for its existence during the war and for six months thereafter. At first the highest SPAR rank authorized was Lieutenant Commander but this was later changed to authorize one Captain's billet as Head of the Women's Reserve with Dorothy Stratton receiving the appointment.

At the end of World War II the SPARS were separated from the service. The enlisted women received discharges and SPAR officers released to inactive duty. In 1947, after the law creating the Women's Reserve was rescinded, the officers also were given discharges. There were no SPARS on duty again with the Coast Guard until 1949 when the Women's Reserve organization was reactivated under new legislative authority.

With the outbreak of the Korean War, a number of SPARS came back on active duty to take over specialized jobs. A small group of Women Reserves remained on active duty throughout the 1950's and 60's, the majority of them being attached to Coast Guard Headquarters. After 1956, women also began integrating into the Organized Reserve Training Program, attending weekly drill meetings and active duty for training.

Finally, in December 1973 women were allowed to serve in the regular Coast Guard and today there are 596 women on active duty; including 48 commissioned officers, 1 warrant officer, 494 regular enlisted women, nine Reserve enlisted women on extended active duty and 44 Reserve enlisted women on initial active duty. In addition there are 29 women attending the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. These cadets, of the Class of 1980 will be the first women ever to graduate from the Academy. Women have attended the regular Officer Candidate School in Yorktown, Virginia since February 1973.

Women have played important roles in every phase of Coast Guard history since 1791 and the women of today are constantly increasing the importance of that role.



**"DID I EVER  
TELL YOU  
THE AMUSING  
LEGEND ABOUT  
THIS PART OF  
THE BAY?"**

# Taxes - Taxes - and more Taxes

WASHINGTON, June 9, 1977 (AFPS) — Military members from 13 States can expect their pay checks to begin reflecting State income tax withholding as early as July 1, 1977.

The Department of Defense said it plans to withhold tax for the following 13 States beginning July 1, 1977, on the assumption that all States which presently have standard agreements for withholding will accept a new standard agreement:

Alabama	**New York
Delaware	North Carolina
*Idaho	*Pennsylvania
Iowa	South Carolina
Kansas	Utah
**New Jersey	Virginia
New Mexico	

Servicemembers should consult legal assistance officers for the details of State tax laws which would affect withholding status.

\*In Idaho and Pennsylvania, military income of legal residents is taxable and will be withheld only while members are stationed in these States.

\*\*New Jersey and New York laws currently provide that a member claiming legal residence in such State is presumed to be a "resident" for income tax purposes unless he meets the following three conditions: (1) he does not maintain a permanent place of abode in the State; (2) he does maintain a permanent place of abode outside the State; and (3) he spends not more than 30 days in the State during the tax year.

Before State income taxes can be withheld from military pay, three prerequisites must be met:

- A new agreement which provides for military withholding must be consummated between the Department of the Treasury and the State Taxing Authority;
- The State tax statutes must not exempt military pay from taxation;
- The State tax statutes must not exempt military pay from withholding.

The Department of Defense has been advised that five jurisdictions have indicated they will accept the new standard agreement which provides for military withholding. Based on that assurance it is planned to begin withholding for these jurisdictions Aug. 1:

Colorado                      Massachusetts

District of Columbia    Rhode Island  
Indiana

The Maryland legislature has removed a State exemption of military pay from withholding, and the Governor signed the revised law, May 26. It is anticipated that withholding will begin for Maryland residents beginning Aug. 1.

The proposed Treasury Department Regulation provides that the effective date for replacement of existing other-than-standard agreements with the new standard agreement is 120 days after the date of the final regulation. Presuming that the effective date of the final regulation is June 10, military withholding will begin for the following six jurisdictions on the first full pay period after Oct. 8, 1977 (this would mean withholding would begin in November) unless an earlier effective date for the standard agreement is agreed to or a new other-than-standard agreement is consummated.

Hawaii	Nebraska
Kentucky	Oregon
Louisiana	Wisconsin

The following 10 States have standard agreements, but the applicable State tax laws specifically exempt military pay from withholding:

Arkansas	Missouri
California	Ohio
Georgia	Oklahoma
Maine	West Virginia
Minnesota	
Mississippi	

Three States have standard agreements with the Treasury Department but exempt military pay from income taxes:

Illinois	Vermont
Michigan	

The following three States which have other-than-standard agreements also have statutory provisions exempting military pay from taxation and/or withholding:

Alaska	Montana
Arizona	

The following 10 States do not have any tax agreement with the Treasury Department, so withholding is not anticipated:

Connecticut	South Dakota
Florida	Tennessee
Nevada	Texas
New Hampshire	Washington
North Dakota	Wyoming



**RM3 DEBRA A. ALLERDICE**

ED. NOTE: The present day contribution of women in the Second District is covered by PA 2 Reggie Reese in this issue.

"Sir, yes Sir" echoes through the area. "Get yourself in step, your left; get yourself in gear, your right; your left-right-left, sing-songs the stern voice of a man leading a formation of men and women, who only a few days earlier were dating, attending dances and hanging-out at the local fast-food franchise. New Coast Guard enlistees have entered the Recruit Training Center at Cape May, New Jersey and are being prepared to help fulfill the many missions of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Since 1973 women have been included among the new enlistees. RIVER CURRENTS has interviewed some of these women now serving in the Second Coast Guard District, a very visible minority group within a very small service, to discover their feelings about the military life and the Coast Guard in particular. RM3 DEBRA A. ALLERDICE

Debra comes from Seattle where her father, a retired Coast Guard Chief Corpsman, now lives. She is the third generation of Coast Guard people in her family and is presently stationed at Group Ohio River, Owensboro, Kentucky. Debra joined the Coast Guard shortly after graduating from Renton High School in Seattle.

A very athletic person, Debra enjoys swimming, hiking, tennis and boating.

"I've lived around the Coast Guard all of my life, so I kind of accepted it. One month and a few days after graduation I joined the Coast Guard," she said.



**SN ROSE HASSELSTROM**

## Women in the S

Debra, recently transferred from Coast Guard Communication Station Honolulu, attended Radioman School immediately after completing recruit training.

She said she enjoys working in the Coast Guard and described some of her duties. "In radio work it's feast or famine, you can sit a long time listening to people talk and doing your normal routine and that's it. You start climbing the walls from boredom, but then something will happen and you start earning your pay." She enjoys working SAR cases, knowing that she is fulfilling the Coast Guard's goal of helping others.

When asked how she enjoyed "boot camp", Debra replied, "I got tired of working twice as hard to prove that I was equal to a guy. The company that I was in had ten girls and ninety-five guys; as I look back on it now, it was a joke. They were training us to take orders, think fast and rely on people. I was used to taking orders. No one had to make me say sir, I used to say it to my dad whenever he got angry with me. I met a lot of nice people and did a lot of stuff, but I wouldn't want to do it all over again. They couldn't pay me to go through boot camp again."

When asked about a Coast Guard career, she admitted she hadn't given it much thought, but she does have some possible goals. "Dad told me





SA LAURA J. McCOY



SA BECKY L. THATCHER

## Second District

he expects me to make Chief Petty Officer in ten years. I'd like to try it. I think it would be a good deal to say, Hey; I'm a chief!"

Debra expects some problems while working on her goal of promotion to RMC, "I don't like giving orders, but if I'm going to make chief I'll have to. I find it hard to take orders from a woman myself; I have to swallow and say 'Yes ma'am,' and do it. But as time goes along it's sort of mellowing out; men are getting used to the fact that women are in the Coast Guard . . . and we're here to stay."

When asked about the Commandant's recent announcement of women going aboard 378' Cutters Debra said, "Some people think there will be difficulties" she added, "married personnel aboard the Cutters might have some problems with their spouses," she concluded, "but, if people can be mature about the fact of women going aboard ship, it will work!"

"Truthfully, I do not want to go aboard ship. I am a very private person. I don't want to live with somebody that close and that long. I don't think that I could handle it, but I do think that a lot of women can."

What is Debra's total outlook on recent advancements in equality for women? "I'm not a screaming 'womens libber,' but I have a right to try anything just as a man does. I try to earn the same pay and privileges as a man does. I am

a woman, but I'm equal."

### SN ROSE HASSELSTROM

SN Hasselstrom is a graduate of Duluth Central High School in Minnesota. She presently works in the mail room at the District Office.

It wasn't hard for Rose to decide on entering the Coast Guard since her hometown of Duluth is near Lake Superior where the Service is fairly well known.

"I didn't think about any of the others, I just went down and signed up. Everybody thought that I was doing it for a joke. They still didn't believe I was going until I got there," she said.

"The first week in boot camp was rotten, afterward it wasn't too bad. I didn't have a hard time adjusting to the military system. The Company Commanders treated the women fair, they treated them according to what they deserved. If you did your job they left you alone, if you messed up, then they got you."

Rose jokingly said that she was not going to get married for fifty years. When asked why, she stated she was making a career in the Coast Guard. She plans to serve 30 to 35 years, or as she put it, ". . . until they throw me out. I'll try to go Storekeeper for now, but as soon as Subsistence Specialist opens I'll try to lateral." (She has graduated from a vocational technical school with a certificate in baking.)

Hasselstrom said that making E-9 is her highest goal. "I've got make Master Chief Petty Officer! I don't want to be an officer; I wouldn't make a good one anyway. I'll have to work at making E-9, but if I get into "SS" I'll go fast at making chief. If I could work in the kitchen 24 hours a day it wouldn't bother me."

When asked about being stationed aboard

ship she said, "I would have to look at it as another duty station. I think that I can hack sea life, I'd like to try. I hate sitting around. Living close to people on a ship is like one big happy family, everybody working together, keeping the place looking sharp. I would rather go aboard ship after the testing stage is finished, I don't want to be one of the guinea pigs."

Rose feels that the Coast Guard is a great life and she explained why: "It's what you make out of it. If you enjoy doing things, there's always something going on. If you're the kind of person that wants to be a dummy you're not going to get anything out of it. What you put into it is what you get out of it."

#### SA LAURA J. MCCOY

SA McCoy's family lives in Pocahontas, Illinois, her father, CWO McCoy, having recently retired from the Coast Guard in St. Louis where he worked in the Comptroller Division of the Second District Office.

Laura graduated from Greenville High School in Illinois. She was originally interested in the Navy but found they had a long waiting list. Her father told her she wouldn't have to wait a long time to enter the Coast Guard so she enlisted in October 1976. "I just wanted to get into the service because, so far, every one in my family has been in the service. My mother was in the Army, although she only stayed in for one tour."

McCoy graduated from basic training in December, a few days after her father retired. Now that she's out of recruit training Laura says that boot camp was fine, "But when I was in boot camp I didn't like it. I wanted to call up my recruiter and tell him off. There were a lot of officers and chiefs in boot camp that didn't like girls in the Coast Guard at all."

Laura works in the Supply Office at Base St. Louis. She said she just punches away all day at the typewriter. She said she likes the daily desk work routine. "I would like to go into the Storekeeper rate because my dad was always a Storekeeper. I was good at math in school so I think Storekeeper would be a pretty good job."

In climbing the goal ladder she said, "I just want to get as high as I can. When I get out I hope to get a good job as an accountant and pick up on the easy life." Laura explained that she would rather take orders than give them because ordering people around is not her style.

When asked her personal feelings about being aboard a ship she said, "To my knowledge a lot of women want to go, but I don't. The feeling of being out in the water a long time

reminds me of sharks."

#### SA BECKY L. THATCHER

SA Thatcher was born in Capitola, California where she graduated from Soquel High School. Coming from a Pacific coast tourist town near Santa Cruz, Becky enjoys using leisure time for swimming and horseback riding. She enlisted in 1974.

"My dad was in the Coast Guard for six years during the Korean War. He didn't have anything to do with me joining the Coast Guard, I just did it. I didn't know a lot about the Guard, I just wanted to get out on the Pacific or the Atlantic," she said.

Becky was the only woman in her company in recruit training. "When I was in boot camp there were two companies before me with all women. There were two more companies with two or three women each behind me." She says that boot camp was fine and that it was not unlike school as far as the men and women sharing the lifestyle.

Thatcher is taking the Coast Guard life as it comes and hasn't given a career much thought. "Well, if I stay in, I plan on making something of myself. If I had the ability I'd go to OCS. I'm a domineering person, it's not hard for me to give orders." She was once the leading seaman among a group of seven. "I don't feel that I give orders as others do. If someone does a job and does it well you've got to pay him for it, give him an extra break, . . . you can't keep his nose to the grind all the time and you can't keep howling at him."

Becky, who was once stationed at MSO Cincinnati and is now part of the deck force at Base St. Louis, wants to become a Radioman. She also wishes to go aboard ship after completing Radioman School at Petaluma, California. "Going aboard ship would give me an opportunity to see some of the world. It will give me an opportunity to prove myself as a female. The difference in my going on a ship now or after completing school is that then I would be rated. I'm not going anywhere as a seaman."

She feels that there will be some problems with men and women sailing together. "There will be problems of having to adjust, being confined for a period of weeks at a time and not being able to get away from anybody, not just for women, but for the men too."

"The best thing I feel that I've experienced in the Coast Guard is just meeting and being around all different kinds of people, experiencing something that a lot of women will never experience."

# Reggie's RIVER RIPPLES



RADM Wayne E. Caldwell presents John Wild the first place Thomas Jefferson Award at the office of the Second Coast Guard District Commander.

Coast Guard personnel were among the winners of the 1976 Thomas Jefferson Awards for excellence in service media.

Coast Guardsmen and civilian employees received awards in both the print and the broadcast categories of the annual contest which is sponsored by the Department of Defense to stimulate and reward excellence in military journalism.

John Wild won a first place trophy in the radio spot category for efforts in creating and producing the radio spot series for the National Response Center. The National Response Center coordinates efforts of federal agencies in reacting to water pollution emergencies.

The bronzed inscribed Thomas Jefferson statuette was presented to John in a ceremony at the Second Coast Guard District Office in St. Louis where he is employed as an information specialist.



The following is an evaluation of the units listed below from the District Inspection Staff.

Unit	Inspected Evaluation
MSO St. Paul	1-77 Outstanding
LORAN Station Dana	3-77 Outstanding
CGC SANGAMON	6-76 Excellent
CGC SCIOTO	8-76 Excellent
CGC CHEYENNE	10-76 Excellent
CGC CIMARRON	1-77 Excellent
Group Ohio River	12-76 Excellent
MSD Davenport	1-77 Excellent
MSO Cincinnati	3-77 Excellent
MSO Paducah	5-77 Excellent
OMEGA Station LaMoure	9-76 Excellent
Regional Director	
Auxiliary, Minneapolis	1-77 Excellent
Reserve Unit	
Owensboro	12-76 Excellent
Reserve Unit Cincinnati	3-77 Excellent

## CONGRATULATIONS!

On May 31, 1977, Coast Guard CDR Charles B. Pitcock retired from the Coast Guard after 22 years of active duty. In his capacity as the Commanding Officer of MSO Pittsburgh, CDR Pitcock also served as Captain of the Port and Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection. LCDR Charles J. Robinson relieved CDR Pitcock as Acting CO. A brief retirement ceremony honoring CDR Pitcock was held aboard the CGC Sycamore at Point State Park in Downtown Pittsburgh.

The following information was acquired from THE MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE CG INFORMATION BULLETIN May-June issue. Answers are printed up-side-down.\*

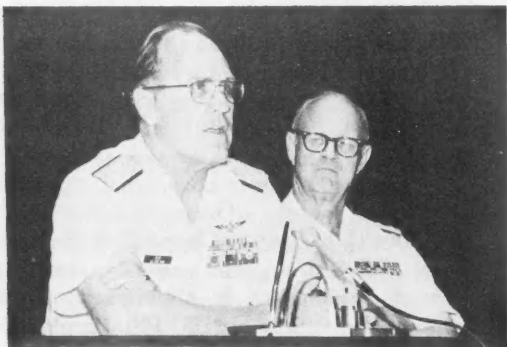
### UNIFORM QUIZ

Test your memory to see how many of the following questions you can answer correctly.

1. What belt is required to be worn with the Coast Guard Tropical Long Uniform?  
(a) Black leather (b) Blue web (c) Black web
2. Can the Blue Windbreaker be worn on liberty with the Tropical Coast Guard Blue Long uniform?  
(a) Yes (b) No
3. Officer and CPO Service Dress Navy Blue and Service Dress Blue (E-6 and below) may be worn until what date?  
(a) 1 July 1977 (b) 1 September 1977 (c) 1 January 1978
4. Are ribbons worn with the undress Coast Guard Blue uniform?  
(a) Yes (b) No
5. Are gray and black gloves in the uniform system?  
(a) Yes (b) No

- 0210, 2011.3  
5. (a) Yes, COMDTINST 1020.3 (CH-29 APR 76), 0210, 0211.7  
4. (b) No, COMDTINST 1020.3 (CH-29 APR 76), JAN 75, 0410.1.b. (1) (3).  
3. (b) 1 SEP 77, COMDTINST 1020.3 (CH-1-19 0211.8  
2. (a) Yes, COMDTINST 1020.3 (CH-29 APR 76), JAN 75, CH-29 APR 76, 0410.1.c. (2), 0518.11  
1. (c) Black web, COMDTINST 1020.3 (CH-1-13

### UNIFORM QUIZ ANSWERS



The Commandant of the Coast Guard Admiral Owen W. Siler is joined by Second Coast Guard District Commander RADM Wayne E. Caldwell as the Commandant addresses an audience attending the National Transportation Week program held at the University of Missouri at St. Louis.



BM2 Michale D. Earle receives an Honorable Discharge Certificate from CDR T. Wood, Commanding Officer of MSO Huntington during Earle's reenlistment ceremony.



News reporter Kathey McDonnell of the Channel 4 news room in St. Louis, interviews Commandant of the Coast Guard Admiral Owen W. Siler during his visit to St. Louis.



CDR T. Wood, Commanding Officer of MSO Huntington presents a letter from Second District Commander Wayne E. Caldwell and a twenty five year service emblem to Mrs. Dorellis L. Murphy for her many years of loyal service to the government.





The Second District's Color Guard displays the flag while Coast Guard Reserve Unit St. Louis-1 proudly brings up the rear in a big parade honoring the 50th anniversary of the Charles Lindbergh solo flight to Paris.



CWO George M. Miley Jr. of MSO Huntington receives a retirement plaque from Commanding Officer CDR T. Wood during Miley's retirement ceremony.



During a recent stop in Washington, D.C., *Roots* author Alex Haley (right) pays a visit to the Secretary of the Army Clifford Alexander, Jr., at the Pentagon.

Haley, who retired from the Coast Guard with more than 20 years of service, said he thinks military Service offers excellent opportunities for today's young people.

In a lighter vein, Haley revealed that his writing career started during his Coast Guard days when he began helping his friends write their love letters. He also wrote some of his own. His son, SSgt. William A. Haley, has 13 years of Army service and is currently a race relations/equal opportunity instructor at Ft. Dix, N.J.

# PLAN TO BUY A HOME ?

## See CG Welfare for assistance.

District Directors of Coast Guard Welfare may once again assist persons in purchasing property for family quarters. This assistance takes the form of a loan which may be used for full or partial downpayment and/or closing costs connected with the purchase.

A loan may be made for the purchase of a new or used mobile home and the property upon which it will initially be placed.

To be eligible for this type of Coast Guard Welfare loan a person must be on regular active duty which does not include active duty only for training. The guidelines listed below spell out some of the details of the program.

- a. A definite need for the funds must be established.
- b. Loans shall not exceed \$3000.00 per applicant.
- c. No grants are authorized under this program.
- d. Provide the following information when applying for a loan.
  1. Total price of home.
  2. Required down-payment and closing costs.
  3. Monthly payment (including principal, interest, taxes and insurance)
  4. Amount of savings.
  5. All outstanding debts.
  6. All sources of income.

Loans will NOT be made under the following conditions:

- a. For the purchase of multiple family dwellings (duplex or larger).
- b. For the purchase of recreational land or vehicles.
- c. If the applicant is heavily in debt or has a history of indebtedness problems.
- d. If either the total savings or indebtedness are such that a housing assistance loan does not appear necessary.
- e. If another house if already owned in the member's name.

Personnel being transferred may also submit an application to their new unit to determine if funds are available and if a loan will be approved. This gives a person the opportunity to know if he can rely on Coast Guard Welfare assistance in his search for a home in his new duty area.

Housing Assistance loans will be repayed by allotment starting the month following receipt of the loan. The loan must be repaid during a persons current period of active service, except for those who would retire before complete repayment. (This limitation may be extended under certain circumstances.) The *maximum* repayment period for any loan will be fifty months and the *minimum* monthly payment will be \$50.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this offer, or if you would like more information, contact your Coast Guard Welfare Representative or the District HAIL office at (FTS) 279-5005 or (commercial) 314-425-5005.



"Mirror, Mirror, on the Wall, Who's the most promising junior officer of all?"

# A LETTER FROM THE TOP



COMMANDER  
SECOND COAST GUARD DISTRICT  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103

10 JUN 1977

To All Coast Guard Personnel, Second District:

As all of you know, the Coast Guard Welfare Campaign for 1977 was recently conducted. I am proud to announce that our district achieved a final total of 95.4% participation. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to each person who supported this worthy cause.

We all hope we will never have to use the assistance of Coast Guard Welfare but we can be proud that we help make it possible for those members of our Coast Guard family who need help to receive it.

Available also is the recently reinstated Housing Assistance Program. This program is discussed in more detail in another article in this publication. Too, I remind everyone that in addition to the emergency loan/grant program offered by Coast Guard Welfare, it administers the Admiral Roland Educational loan program which provides interest-free educational assistance loans of between \$250.00 and \$1500.00 for the dependents of Coast Guard personnel. These loans can be made to help pay college tuition, vocational training, or other specialized services.

For more details and further assistance with any of the Welfare programs, contact your nearest Welfare Representative or the district HAIL officer.

Again, on behalf of all Coast Guard men and women, my most sincere thanks.

*W. E. Caldwell*

W. E. CALDWELL

Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard  
Commander, Second Coast Guard District



"WELL, THERE'S COAST GUARD HEADQUARTERS THAT YOU'RE ALWAYS CRABBING ABOUT...  
AREN'T YOU GOING TO GO IN AND GIVE THEM A PIECE OF YOUR MIND?!"



